

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>FP0764-3/TAC</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. <b>PCT/US 99/ 13592</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>16/06/1999</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>14/10/1997</b>
Applicant  <b>TEXTRON AUTOMOTIVE COMPANY INC. et al.</b>		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 7 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☒ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☒ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

2  
☐ None of the figures.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 99/ 13592

**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)**

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

SEE ADDITIONAL SHEET

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**Remark on Protest**

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this International application, as follows :

1- claims : 1-39

Airbag device comprising a deployment door, an airbag dispenser and a reaction plate in between

2- claims : 40,41

Method for making a airbag device with a door having tubular channels along its frangible edge.

## Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

Line 2, after "panel" insert "(12)" , after "door" insert "(16)"  
Line 3, after "edge" insert "(18)"  
Line 4, after "dispenser" insert "(20)", after "bag" insert "(24)" and  
after "plate" insert "(28)"  
Line 5, after "bag" insert "(24)" and after "door" insert "(16)"  
Line 6, after "plate" insert "(28)" and after "line" insert "(36)"  
Line 12, after "tethers" insert "(50)"  
Line 17, after "hinge" insert "(44)"

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 6 B60R21/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 6 B60R

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 722 863 A (ECIA) 24 July 1996 (1996-07-24) column 1, line 1 - line 12 column 2, line 37 - column 3, line 47; figures	1,7,10, 30,31,35
Y		21,22, 32-34, 37-39
A		4,8
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 01, 31 January 1996 (1996-01-31) & JP 07 246900 A (INOAC CORP), 26 September 1995 (1995-09-26) abstract; figures	40,41
Y		21,22
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## ° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 October 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

29/10/1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Authorized officer

Dubois, B

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

/US 99/13592

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 722863	A	24-07-1996	FR 2729348 A	19-07-1996
			JP 8281836 A	29-10-1996
JP 07246900	A	26-09-1995	NONE	
US 5395668	A	07-03-1995	JP 4110117 A	10-04-1992
			JP 7067711 B	26-07-1995
			JP 5162603 A	29-06-1993
			DE 69109780 D	22-06-1995
			DE 69109780 T	15-02-1996
			EP 0475198 A	18-03-1992
JP 09240404	A	16-09-1997	NONE	
JP 06227351	A	16-08-1994	NONE	
US 5035444	A	30-07-1991	NONE	
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			JP 4356250 A	09-12-1992
FR 2649945	A	25-01-1991	JP 2936585 B	23-08-1999
			JP 3050053 A	04-03-1991
			CA 2021269 A	19-01-1991
			DE 4022881 A	14-02-1991
			GB 2236080 A,B	27-03-1991
			US 5031930 A	16-07-1991
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			CA 2152970 A	30-12-1995
			CA 2175418 A	04-11-1996
			DE 69601557 D	01-04-1999
			DE 69601557 T	26-08-1999
			EP 0689968 A	03-01-1996
			EP 0741061 A	06-11-1996
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			ES 2128123 T	01-05-1999
			JP 8337149 A	24-12-1996
			JP 8058513 A	05-03-1996
			CA 2146499 A	30-12-1995
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			AU 7699598 A	30-12-1998
			WO 9856621 A	17-12-1998
			US 5941558 A	24-08-1999
DE 19735438	A	18-02-1999	NONE	
US 5738367	A	14-04-1998	NONE	

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

T/US 99/13592

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 395 668 A (ITO ET AL.) 7 March 1995 (1995-03-07) column 2, line 33 -column 3, line 19; figures 1-3	32-34, 37
A	---	36
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1998, no. 01, 30 January 1998 (1998-01-30) & JP 09 240404 A (NIPPON PLAST CO LTD), 16 September 1997 (1997-09-16) abstract; figures 1,3,4,8	38, 39
X	---	
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 018, no. 602 (M-1705), 16 November 1994 (1994-11-16) & JP 06 227351 A (NIPPON PLAST CO LTD), 16 August 1994 (1994-08-16) abstract; figures	40, 41
A	---	21-24
A	US 5 035 444 A (CARTER) 30 July 1991 (1991-07-30)  abstract; figures	1-3, 6, 8-10, 30-33
A	---	
A	US 5 342 085 A (HIRASHIMA ET AL.) 30 August 1994 (1994-08-30) column 3, line 9 -column 4, line 35; figures 1-3 column 5, line 18 -column 6, line 13; figures 5,6	1, 32, 33
A	---	
A	FR 2 649 945 A (TAKATA CORP) 25 January 1991 (1991-01-25) figures 1-4	18, 19
A	---	
A	US 5 569 959 A (COOPER ET AL.) 29 October 1996 (1996-10-29) cited in the application column 8, line 32 - line 58; figure 8	31-34, 36, 37
P, X	---	
P, X	WO 98 56620 A (TEXTRON AUTOMOTIVE CO. INC.) 17 December 1998 (1998-12-17) cited in the application page 5, line 23 -page 7, line 24; claims 1,3-10,33,34; figures 1,2	1-4, 6-11, 26, 30-33
P, X	---	
P, X	DE 197 35 438 A (VOLKSWAGEN AG) 18 February 1999 (1999-02-18)  column 3, line 26 - line 55; figures 3,4	1-3, 5-10, 20, 30, 32
Y	---	4
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1992)